Spending Bill Is Tough on NIH, Cuts Pell Grants

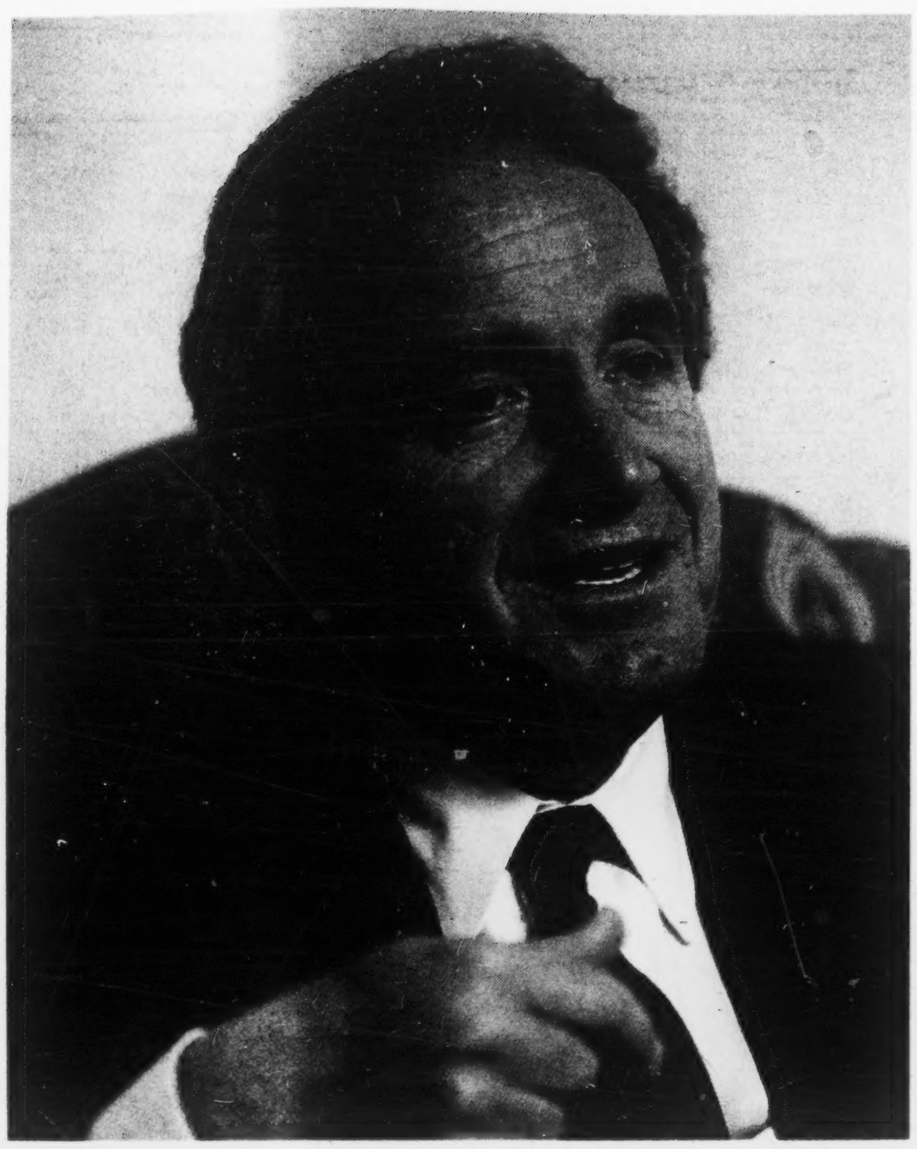
Continued From Page A23

would leave the agency supporting only 5,000 new and competing grants, 1,000 less than Congress mandated the agency to finance over the last several years.

Big Cuts for Resources Center

Every institute in the NIH will receive less than the President requested. But only one, the National Center for Research Resources, will receive less than it did in 1992. The center, which primarily provides facility support to university researchers with grants from the NIH, has taken considerable budget cuts over the last several years. This may have serious consequences, said Rep. George W. Gekas, a Republican from Pennsylvania. "Our scientists cannot work without the technological help through microscopes and all the other gigantic mechanisms that are required," he said.

Lawmakers also said they were disappointed that the National Institute of General Medical Sciences would get only $833-million, a 2.2-per-cent increase for 1993. Advocates for the institute, which primarily supports basic research, say that it continually loses out in the appropriations process because unlike other institutes, it does not focus on diseases such as breast cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and AIDS, that have strong political constituencies.



RICHARD BLOOM, SABA

Sen. Tom Harkin on the results of the House-Senate conference: "Everything is low in this bill."

Women's-health advocates once again won a major victory. The conference report directed the National Cancer Institute to place "the highest priority" on expanding support for women's health, especially in the areas of breast, cervical, and ovarian cancer.

A bright spot for researchers is that the conference dropped a provision from the House version of the bill that would have shaved 1 per cent from most accounts in the Public Health Service, including the NIH, to increase support for construction and renovation of the health service's intramural research facilities. ■

1993 Appropriations for National Institutes of Health

	Fiscal 1992 Actual spending	Fiscal 1993 President's request	Fiscal 1993 Approved by House	Fiscal 1993 Approved by Senate	Fiscal 1993 Signed by the President
Cancer Institute	$1,951,541,000	$2,010,439,000	$1,998,616,000	$2,010,439,000	$1,991,423,000
Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	1,191,500,000	1,245,396,000	1,228,455,000	1,228,455,000	1,218,627,000
Institute of Dental Research	159,057,000	166,742,000	163,269,000	163,269,000	161,963,000
Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases	662,678,000	699,809,000	688,633,000	688,633,000	683,124,000
Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke	581,847,000	615,190,000	605,100,000	607,100,000	601,747,000
Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	960,914,000	1,010,845,000	990,055,000	989,055,000	983,871,000
Institute of General Medical Sciences	815,134,000	862,069,000	842,229,000	824,529,000	833,086,000
Institute of Child Health and Human Development	519,724,000	545,238,000	534,094,000	534,094,000	529,821,000
Eye Institute	270,300,000	285,133,000	279,102,000	279,102,000	276,869,000
Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	252,031,000	261,513,000	255,115,000	255,115,000	253,074,000
Institute on Aging	383,611,000	407,284,000	402,218,000	405,218,000	401,232,000
Institute on Alcoholism	172,050,000	180,915,000	174,335,000	180,169,000	177,281,000
Institute on Drug Abuse	399,736,000	420,908,000	404,421,000	410,502,000	405,710,000
Institute of Mental Health	561,255,000	596,098,000	573,449,000	596,098,000	585,713,000
Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal, and Skin Diseases	203,913,000	214,929,000	214,619,000	214,619,000	212,902,000
Research Resources	314,551,000	330,231,000	314,351,000	315,551,000	312,729,000
Center for Nursing Research	44,970,000	48,568,000	47,363,000	49,000,000	48,202,000
Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	149,102,000	157,301,000	153,466,000	157,301,000	155,091,000
Center for Human-Genome Research	104,878,000	110,429,000	107,217,000	107,217,000	106,359,000
International Center	19,609,000	20,727,000	20,133,000	19,609,000	19,842,000
Library of Medicine	103,323,000	108,662,000	105,024,000	105,024,000	104,184,000
Total, N.I.H.	$10,071,567,000	$10,579,684,000	$10,368,551,000	$10,387,721,000	$10,362,802,000

Republican Opposition Appears to Doom Tax Legislation Favorable to Colleges

By Scott Jaschik

WASHINGTON

Congress passed a bill last week that contained almost all of the tax provisions that colleges have been seeking since 1986. But the legislation appears doomed. Republican leaders and Administration sources say President Bush will veto it.

For colleges, the frustrating result is that they must start from scratch next year, building support for the tax measures they favor. At the same time, however, higher-education lobbyists said they were encouraged that they obtained so much support for the provisions this year.

"For its short life, this tax bill was extraordinary," said Sheldon E. Steinbach, general counsel for the American Council on Education.

Veto Threatened

At *The Chronicle*'s press time last week, the bill had not been formally sent to the President. It is likely to be vetoed because of provisions—unrelated to higher education—that Administration aides said would violate Mr. Bush's recent pledge never again to raise taxes.

The tax bill would do the following for higher education:

- Repeal a limit of $150-million on the amount of tax-exempt bonds private colleges can issue.
- Fully restore tax breaks for gifts of appreciated property such as stock, land, and works of art.
- End the taxation of the living- and travel-expense portions of scholarships and fellowships.
- Allow for corporate sponsorship of events such as college bowl games, without endangering the non-profit status of those events.
- Allow people with Individual Retirement Accounts to make penalty-free withdrawals to pay for college expenses.
- Restore the deductibility of interest on student loans.
- Extend the tax exemption for funds provided by employers for their workers' education.
- Repeal an income limit on those who can use U.S. Savings Bonds, without paying taxes on the interest, to pay for college expenses.

Most of the measures grew out of colleges' problems with tax-reform legislation enacted in 1986. That legislation reduced income-tax rates while eliminating many tax breaks for institutions and individuals.

A Piecemeal Basis

Even since then, colleges have been pushing to win some of those tax breaks back. But when they were successful—as in the case of employer-provided tuition benefits or gifts of appreciated property—it has generally been on a piecemeal basis, with Congress granting only temporary or partial restoration of the tax breaks.

The Senate has generally been more sympathetic to colleges on tax issues than the House of Representatives, and most of the provisions favoring colleges were added while the Senate was considering the legislation.

For example, Sen. Trent Lott, a Mississippi Republican, pushed for the provision ending taxation of scholarship income.

He noted a recent audit by the Internal Revenue Service into scholarships awarded by Harvard University and said such inquiries could spread if scholarships remained taxable.

"If we do not get this, the IRS is going to be probing around the University of Kansas, the University of Mississippi, Texas A&M, the University of Texas, the University of Florida, and taxing scholarships," Senator Lott said. "That is unheard of."

But the provisions added in the Senate also added to the expense of the bill, leading to opposition from Republicans and to the expected veto by President Bush.

A few higher-education lobbyists held out some hope last week that President Bush would change his mind and sign the bill, but they acknowledged that that was a very long shot. ■

NIH Awards Research Center $140-Million to Coordinate Study of Women's Health

WASHINGTON

Last week the National Institutes of Health laid the groundwork for the largest federal study of women's health ever undertaken: It awarded a $140-million contract to a center to coordinate the clinical research involved in the project.

The Women's Health Initiative is a 15-year, $625-million study that will look at cancer, cardiovascular disease, and osteoporosis in older women. According to Bernadine P. Healy, the NIH director, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle will "function as the central nervous system," of the initiative, overseeing the work of a network of 45 clinical research centers nationwide.

"The Seattle project will make certain that each clinical center holds to the highest scientific and administrative standards," Dr. Healy said.

The first 15 centers will be chosen early in 1993, she said, and they will play a central role in developing the initiative's overall program. The remaining 30 centers are expected to be announced in 1994.

The clinical trials will test the benefits and risks of hormone-replacement therapy, dietary modification, and vitamin supplementation on the health of post-menopausal women.

Some 60,000 women will participate in the trials.

An additional 100,000 will be enrolled in a long-term observational study to determine new risk factors for diseases in women.

—STEPHEN BURD

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Quote, Unquote

News Summary: Page A3

"Departments are shrinking, so we have bigger classes and longer waiting lists to get in. And it's harder to see professors."
The president of the Student Council at the U. of Virginia, on the effects of state budget cuts: A21

"We've simply got to do a better job of getting people to understand the investment in education has a greater payoff than almost anything else we could do in our country."
The president of the National Association of Indcpendent Colleges and Universities: A36

"It shows them science is in everything they major in."
A professor of science, on a course for non-science majors: A17

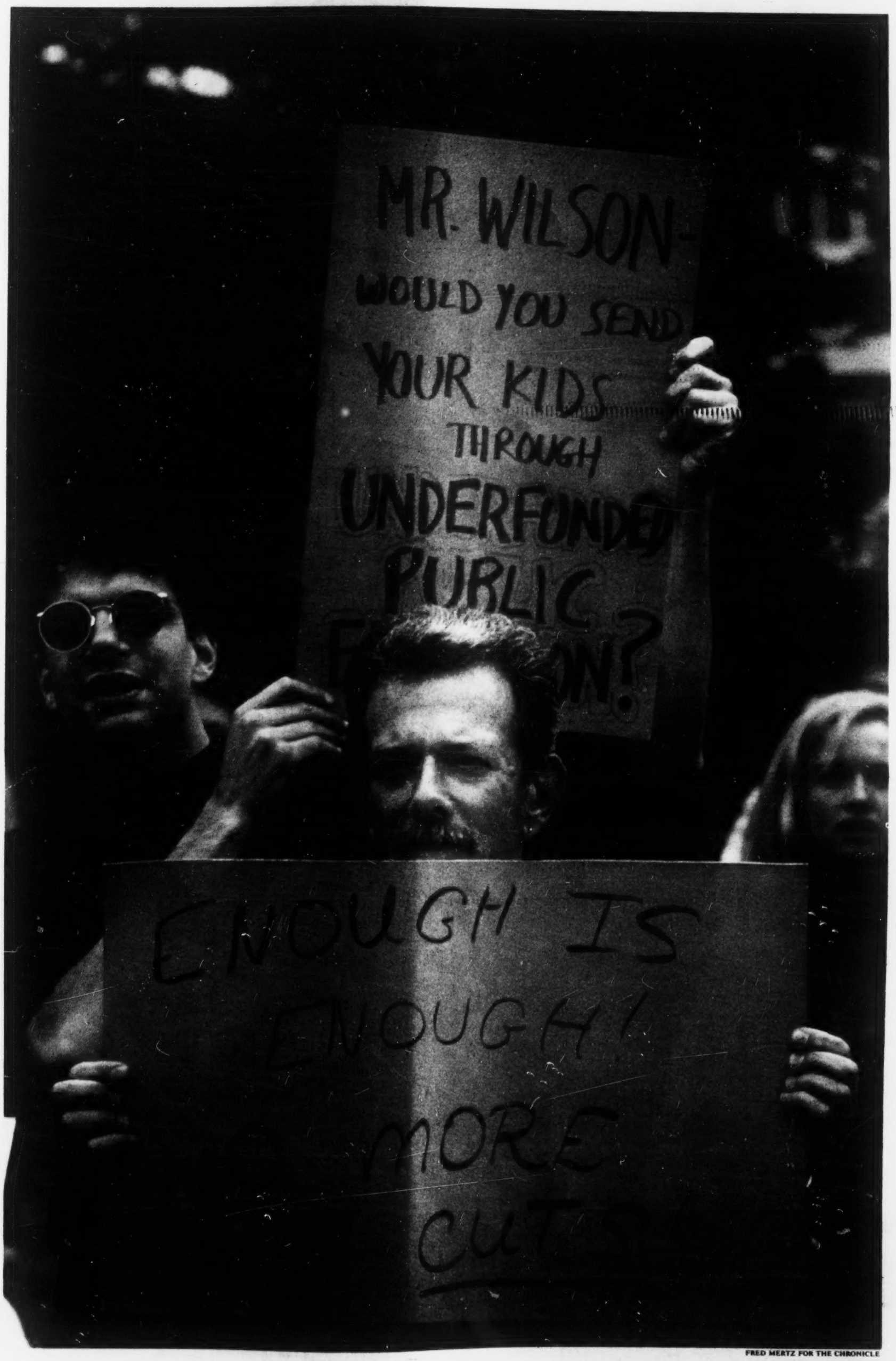
"It is the responsibility of scholars to subject the myths promoted by politicians to rigorous scrutiny."
A history professor, on sharpening the debate over family values: B1

"Excessive pressure falls on younger scholars to produce the Big Synthesis before they are ready to do so, while worthy but modestly defined topics go unappreciated."
A professor of English, on overgeneralization in academe: A56

"It's completely wrong, and it's giving the wrong signal to the outside world. It has already damaged Stellenbosch."
A professor at South Africa's U. of Stellenbosch, on making Afrikaans the language of instruction: A47

"Nobody wants to go out on a limb. That's not exciting, that's not America, and we've got to turn it around."
Robert H. Rines, the founder of New Hampshire's only law school: A5

SECTION 1	PAGES A1-56
Athletics	A44-45
Business & Philanthropy	A33-35
Gazette	A49
Fact Files	A26, 37
Government & Politics	A21-28
Information Technology	A29-32
International	A46-48
Personal & Professional	A17-20
Scholarship	A8-16
Students	A36-43
SECTION 2	**PAGES B1-56**
Bulletin Board	B9-55
Opinion, Letters, Architecture	B1-8



FRED MERTZ FOR THE CHRONICLE

As State Spending Declines, Tuition Goes Up: A21, A36

MARGINALIA

A "notification of change in federal employment laws" was sent recently to a reader of ours at, according to the address label, "West Cheater Univ."

■

A member of our staff, urgently needing to talk with a professor at Long Island University, dialed 1-718-488-1000, whereupon he was greeted electronically as follows:

"Welcome to the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University and home of the LIU Plan.

"If you are calling from a Touch-Tone phone, please press 1, now."

After our man pressed 1 (now), he heard:

"For the mailing address and directions to the Brooklyn campus, please press 1, now.

"For the Financial Aid Office, please press 2, now.

"For the Bursar's Office, please press 3, now.

"For the Registrar's Office, please press 4, now.

"For Continuing Education, including non-credit programs, please press 5, now.

"For the Admissions Office, including degree programs, please press 6, now.

"To reach other offices on campus, please press 7, now.

Our man pressed 7 and heard:

"Your call is being transferred. Please wait.

"Operator. May I help you?"

"*Professor Soandso, please.*"

"What department is he in?"

Now?

■

Headline in the University of Oklahoma's *Oklahoma Daily:*

LOCAL POLS DISCUSS
PEROT PHENONEMA

And what did they decicide?

■

From *Religious Studies News*, a publication of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature:

"Recently, the president of San Diego State University announced he was eliminating the department of religion as part of a larger effort to respond to the financial crisis at his institution. . . .

"The decision was an executive one, with litter or no processing of alternatives. . . ."

"Rubbish!" a reader tells us.

■

From an item in this space:

"Announcement of a job at the University of Minnesota at Duluth:

" 'Chicano / Latino / Hispanic Student Services Coordinator . . .

" 'Graduate degree; evidence of counseling skill; knowledge of Chicago / Latino / Hispanic culture.' "

Was that typo theirs or ours? a dozen or so readers have asked.

Ours, we reply grumpily. —C.G.

In Brief

Students build replica of Columbus flagship

MIAMI — Students at Miami-Dade Community College have built a replica of Christopher Columbus's flagship, the *Santa Maria*, inside the atrium of the college's Medical Center.

Alberto Meza (*below*), an assistant professor of humanities and English, did a dramatic portrayal of Columbus on his voyage.

Black leaders in Miami visited the exhibit and were given a chance to present their views on the "dark side" of the Columbus legend, Mr. Meza said. ■

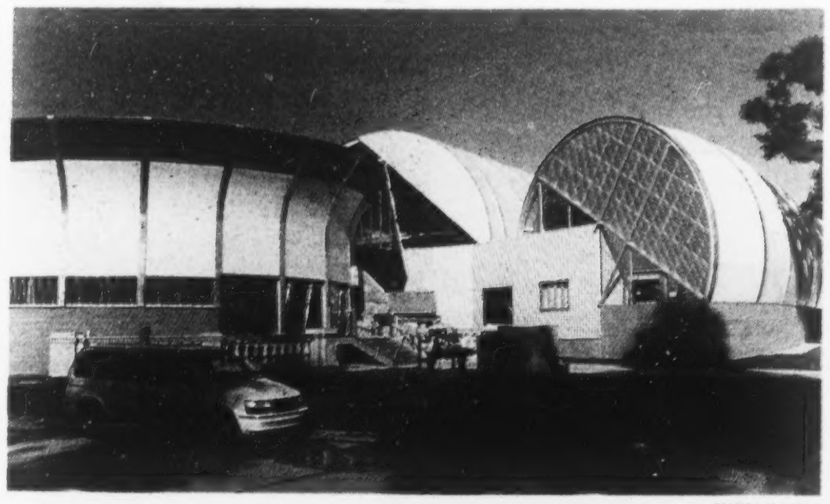
ROBERT WERNER

Racial incidents hit U. of Mass. at Amherst

AMHERST, MASS.—The University of Massachusetts campus has been the site of several race-related disturbances this month, including an incident in which a black resident adviser was allegedly punched by a white man who was visiting two students. The adviser, who told police he had informed the visitor that drinking wasn't allowed in the dormitory hallway, later found racist graffiti on the wall outside his room.

After the incident, about 150 students gathered for a vigil, but many in the crowd grew angry and left the gathering, blocking traffic on a street adjacent to the campus and breaking several windows in a campus building. A group of students, mostly black, entered the dormitory where the assault on the adviser had occurred and shouted racial slurs, demanding that administrators discipline the white students whom the adviser's assailant had been visiting.

Richard O'Brien, the university's chancellor, said the institution would hire more security officers to patrol the campus and would initiate more programs to recruit minority students. ■



HARLAN LEBO

Library finds new home under big top

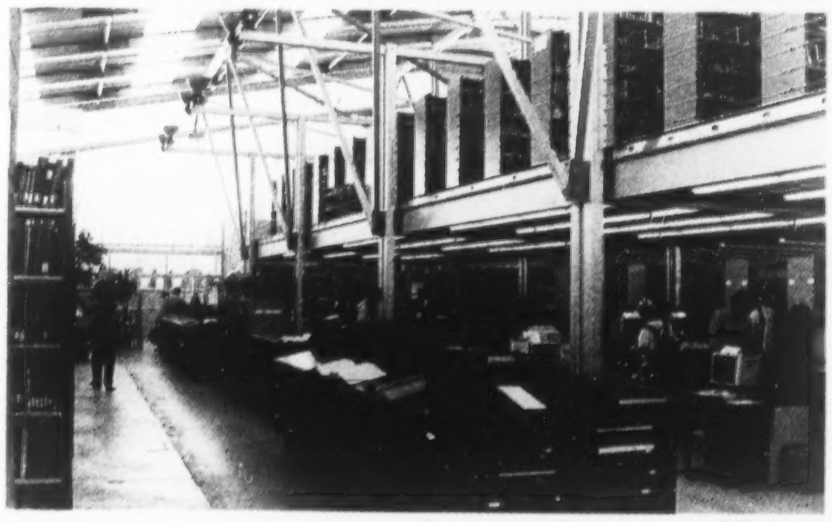
LOS ANGELES—Students on the University of California campus here will have to hunt for books under the big top while the Powell Library is being renovated.

The university's undergraduate collection of books will be housed in a 36,000-square-foot, two-story tent until 1995. Its plastic-coated fabric roof, composed of blue, yellow, white, and translucent panels, is stretched over an aluminum frame.

The tent was completed in early September. All books and furniture had to be moved in three weeks so the temporary quarters would be ready for the start of the new semester.

The structure houses more than 200,000 books and journals, two reading rooms, 500 study carrels, a 40-station computer lab, a 28-seat classroom, and office space.

Workers are renovating the Powell Library because a safety survey determined that the building could be dangerous in the event of an earthquake or fire. ■



HARLAN LEBO

Ex-officer at NYU charged with stealing $4-million

NEW YORK—A former financial-aid officer at New York University has been arrested in Florida and charged with embezzling $4.1-million from the university.

Dora Malfrici, who had worked for the university for 35 years before retiring in May, is charged with issuing 1,200 refund checks over the past 10 years to students who either did not qualify for them or did not exist. She is charged with signing those checks over to accounts registered under a false name and transferring the money into accounts she held with her husband.

University auditors discovered discrepancies in the financial-aid records in June and contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

A lawyer for Ms. Malfrici declined to comment. ■

CHRIS HILDRETH, CORNELL U.

Cornell hockey team dances on ice for charity

ITHACA, N.Y.—Members of the men's ice-hockey team at Cornell University donned pink tutus and took to the rink to perform "Swan Lake" for a local charity.

The 32 skaters gave two performances at Cornell's Lynah Rink. Organizers, who are still tabulating the amount raised, said all proceeds would go to Hospicare, a local group that assists people who are taking care of terminally ill family members. A former Olympic skater, JoJo Starbuck, performed, and the sports commentator Dick Button emceed. ■

Fraternity pledge says members assaulted him

AUBURN, ALA.—Five Auburn University students have been charged with assault after a fraternity pledge accused them of making him perform mock sexual acts, coating him with dog feces, and knocking him unconscious.

Ronald K. Long, a freshman, charged that members of the Sigma Pi fraternity mistreated him and other students who were taking part in pledge activities.

The student said that, among other things, the fraternity members had poured beer on him, made him lick a shoe, and forced him to strip to his underwear. They then kicked, choked, and punched him, he said.

Each of the five fraternity members was arrested, charged with assault, and released on $500 bond. If convicted, each faces up to six months in jail and a $500 fine.

Auburn, which prohibits hazing, has suspended the fraternity pending the outcome of two campus investigations. The five students could face disciplinary action ranging from reprimands to suspensions. ■

Man killed in pregame revelry

DALLAS—One man was killed and about a dozen others injured during pregame revelries on the eve of the University of Texas–University of Oklahoma football game this month.

The hotly contested game is traditionally played here, a neutral point halfway between the two campuses.

Thousands of people took to the streets of downtown Dallas the night before the game and 91 were arrested. Thomas J. Crump, who was not a student at either university, was fatally shot after a minor vehicle accident, while other people were injured in stabbings and shootings. Most of those arrested were not students, said a Dallas police spokesman. ■

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Government & Politics

Ways & Means

Bill Clinton may be mellowing when it comes to overhead costs.

In several speeches in his Presidential campaign, Mr. Clinton has cited examples of abuses of the system by which universities are reimbursed for the overhead costs they incur while performing federally sponsored research.

Mr. Clinton's broadsides have alarmed university officials, who have been supplying Mr. Clinton's Little Rock headquarters with information about how difficult it is for universities to understand the rules about overhead costs.

Those officials were pleased last week when the Clinton campaign released a new "Statement Regarding University Research in the 1990's."

The statement included Mr. Clinton's repeated pledge to increase financial support for research and mentioned the "abuse and waste" of overhead reimbursements.

But the statement went on to note that the current regulations are "not always clear," that overhead costs are "very real," and that proper reimbursement is "crucial to a university's ability to carry out basic and applied research."

The statement added: "Our goal must be to implement a rational, consistent, and equitable set of rules for the award and oversight of federal research dollars."

■

A government-supported consortium that conducts research on semiconductors would have to spend about $10-million of its federal support in 1993 on environmental issues, under a bill that Congress has sent to the President.

The report accompanying the bill instructs the consortium, named SEMATECH, to spend 10 per cent of its total federal support—which will be about $100-million—for that purpose. SEMATECH must work with representatives of labor and environmental groups.

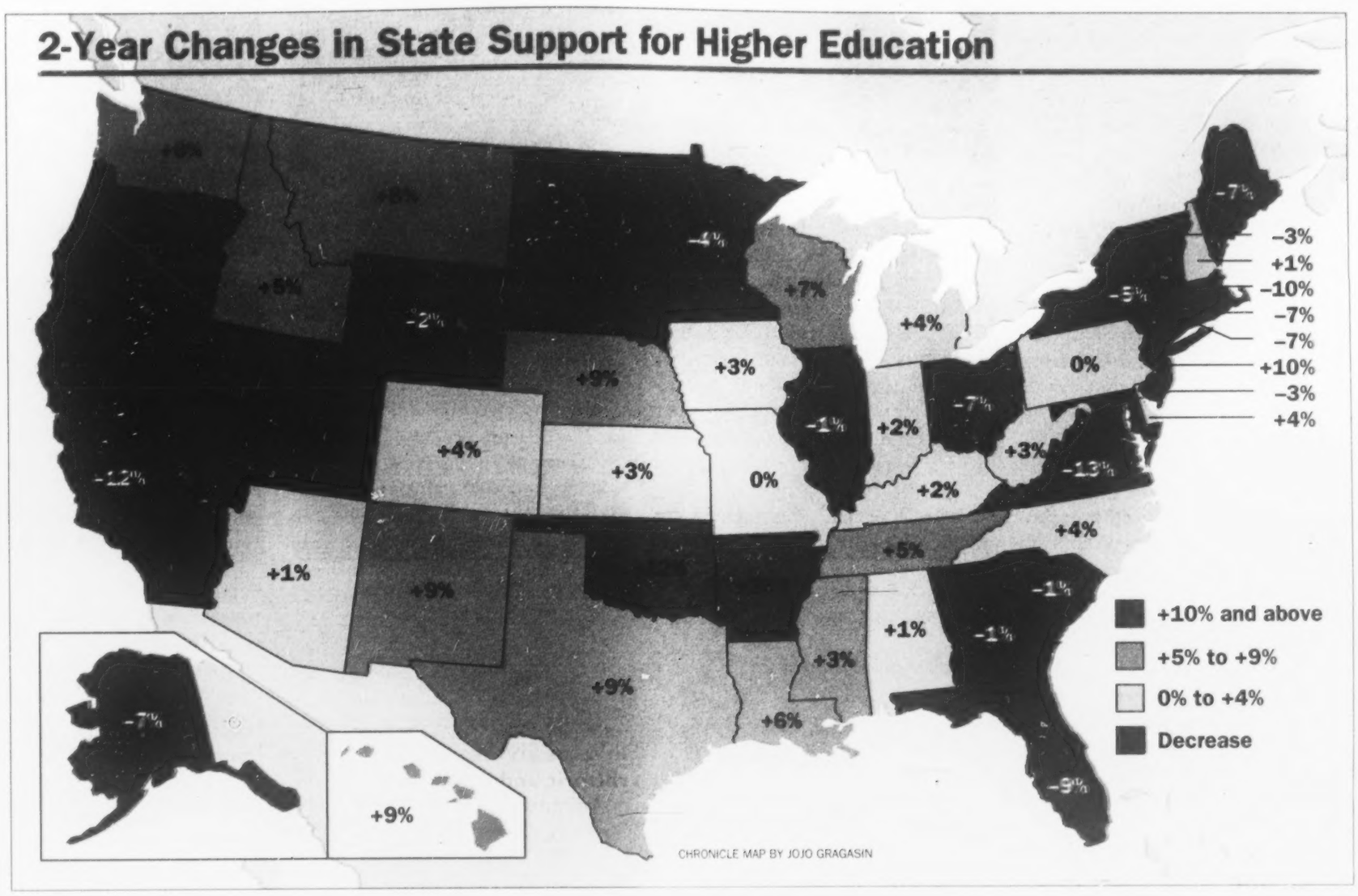
The bill extends the authority of military programs to receive federal funds.

A national coalition of environmental, labor, and community groups called the Campaign for Responsible Technology has been lobbying for the provision. The group has pointed to SEMATECH as an example of the need for a broader range of interest groups—besides industries and universities—to be involved in federally supported consortia that are working on new technologies. SEMATECH awards subcontracts to universities.

■

The National Research Council's Board on Agriculture has announced a new three-year study on the role of agriculture colleges at the nation's land-grant universities.

The study will examine how the colleges are meeting national needs—or can better meet them—in a time of budget cuts.



1% Decline in State Support for Colleges Thought to Be First 2-Year Drop Ever

Institutions and students will get about $300-million less than was provided in 1991-92

By Scott Jaschik

STATE appropriations for higher education this year are about 1 per cent less than they were two years ago—probably the first two-year drop in the country's history.

States will provide colleges and student-aid programs with $39.4-billion for the 1992-93 academic year, about $300-million less than was provided in 1991-92 and about $200-million less than in the previous year, according to a study by the Center for Higher Education at Illinois State University.

The authors of the study, which was started in 1958, have always stressed the importance of two-year percentage changes rather than single-year fluctuations, to avoid overestimating the impact of short-term fiscal or political crises. The study has never before recorded a two-year drop, and its sponsors say that, based on reviews of Census Bureau data, they believe this year's two-year drop is the first in American history.

'FUNDAMENTAL RESHAPING' SEEN

Edward R. Hines, a professor of educational administration at Illinois State who directs the study, said the figures were "pretty shocking." Even the Depression of the 1930's did not prompt similar cutbacks.

Mr. Hines said that the bleak state budget picture was leading to "the beginning of a fundamental reshaping of higher education," with state lawmakers and educators debating how best to re-allocate existing funds, eliminate academic programs, and define workable missions for colleges.

Public colleges and universities in 17 states—including such populous ones as California, Florida, Illinois, New York, and Ohio—are receiving lower appropriations this year than two years ago. When the figures are adjusted for inflation over the last two years, 36 states are providing less money than they did two years ago.

The East has been particularly hard hit.

1992-93 APPROPRIATIONS for colleges and universities in the 50 states appear in a table that begins on Page A26.

Of the 17 states with two-year percentage decreases, only four are west of the Mississippi River.

The state with the biggest two-year drop—13 per cent—was Virginia, which just a few years ago was pouring more money into higher education. Matthew W. Cooper, president of the Student Council at the University of Virginia, said that everyone on his campus could feel the effects of the budget cuts.

"We have skyrocketing costs, with tuition being used to replace the state revenue," he said. "Some people have had to leave, and others have more loans."

Mr. Cooper added: "Departments are shrinking, so we have bigger classes and longer waiting lists to get in. And it's harder to see professors."

Universities in a few states are still doing well. Nevada, for the third year in a row, leads the nation with its two-year percentage increase for higher education—27 per cent more than two years ago.

Mark Dawson, chancellor of the University of Nevada System, said almost all of the increase would be used to pay for rapidly rising enrollments. A few institutions in particular—the Community College of Southern Nevada and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas—have been experiencing double-digit enrollment increases for several years now. "We have to build new buildings, and hire as many people as we can," Mr. Dawson said.

The only other state with a two-year increase of more than 20 per cent was Arkansas, with 25 per cent.

Diane S. Gilleland, director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, said: "Arkansans have really come to believe that education is the answer. We've really achieved a consensus on this."

Priority items for using the new money are improving academic programs, especially at the technical colleges, and raising faculty salaries.

SOME INCREASES FOR STUDENT AID

While the overall trends in state support for higher education are gloomy, some categories of college spending are doing better than others. In many states, student-aid programs received substantial increases even as operating support for colleges remained level or was going down.

In New York, the state student-aid

Continued on Page A26